

HERGÉ
THE ADVENTURES OF
TINTIN
**THE SEVEN
CRYSTAL BALLS**



MAGNET



THE SEVEN CRYSTAL BALLS

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HOME AFTER TWO YEARS

Sanders-Hardiman Expedition Returns

LIVERPOOL, Thursday. The seven members of the Sanders-Hardiman Ethnographic Expedition landed at Liverpool today. Back in Europe after a fruitful two-year trip through Peru and Bolivia, the scientists report that their travels took them deep into little-known territory. They discovered several Inca tombs, one of which contained a mummy still wearing a 'borla' or royal crown of solid gold. Funerary inscriptions establish beyond doubt that the tomb belonged to the Inca Rascar Capac.

This will lead to trouble...
You see if it doesn't!

?



What'll lead to trouble?

All this mummy business.
Remember, young man, what
happened with Tut-Ankh-
Amen!



Think of all those Egyptologists,
dying in mysterious circumstances
after they'd opened the tomb of
the Pharaoh... You wait, the
same will happen to those busy-
bodies, violating the Inca's burial
chamber.

You think so?



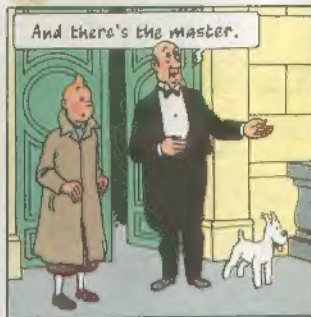
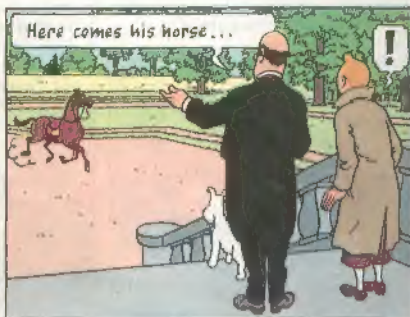
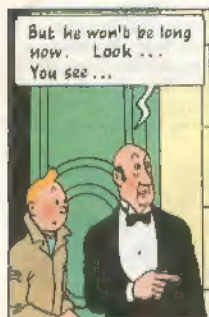
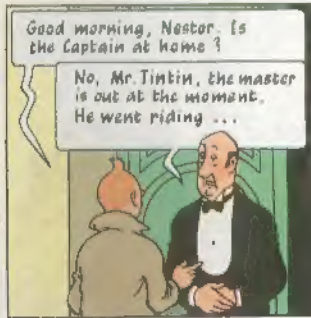
I'm sure of it!... Anyway, why
can't they leave them in peace?...
What'd we say if the Egyptians
or the Peruvians came over here
and started digging up our kings!
... What'd we say then, eh?

Well, I...



Oh... excuse
me. I see
we're com-
ing to my
station...
I must go.

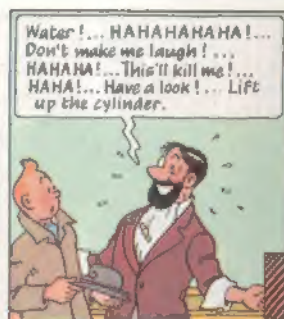












But what on earth did you expect it to be?

Whisky, by thunder!
... Whisky!

Whisky? ... Come now, Captain, you can't be serious. How in the world could water turn itself into whisky? ... It's impossible!

Impossible! Impossible! ... No, blistering barnacles, it's not impossible. He manages it every time!

Who's he?

Bruno, the master magician! He's appearing at the Hippodrome. I've studied his act for a solid fortnight, trying to discover how he does it...

Yesterday I thought I'd solved it at last: Blistering barnacles, what do I get? Water, water, and still more water! But I'm going back again tonight, and you're coming too! This time I'll get the answer!



You must watch carefully to see exactly what he does...

We've got plenty of time. There are several other turns before he comes on.

First we have Ragdalah the fakir, with Yamilah, the amazing clairvoyante. Then Ramon Zarate, the knife-thrower. Next...

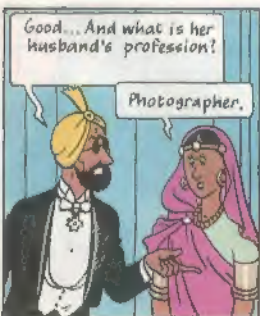
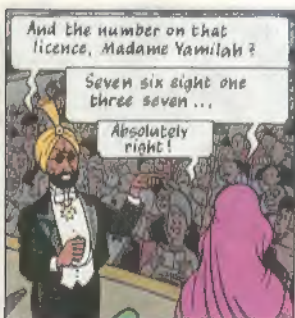
Ssh! Here comes Ragdalah the fakir. He's incredible too.

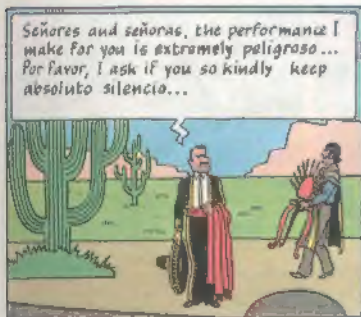
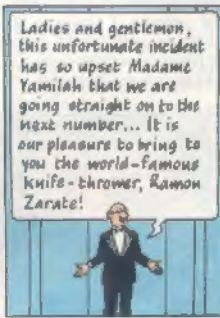
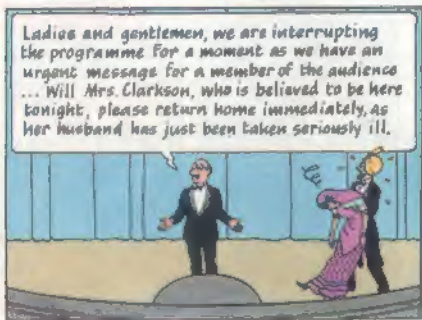


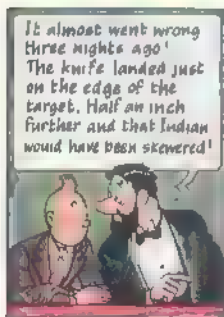
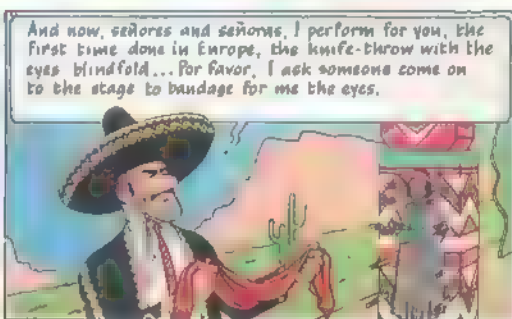
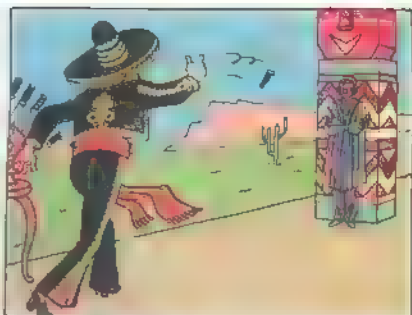
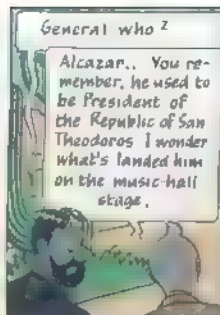
Ladies and gentlemen, I have much pleasure in inviting you to participate in a remarkable experiment: an experiment I had the honour to

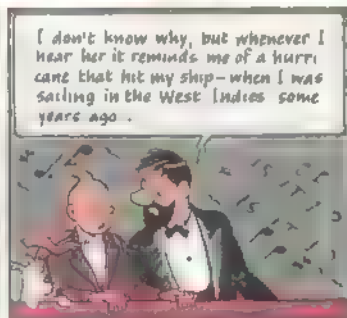
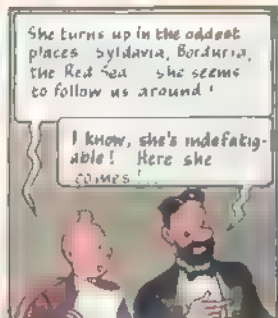
... before his Highness the Maharajah of Hambalapur, and for which he invested me with the Order of the Grand Naja... The secret of the mysterious power at my command was entrusted to me by the famous yogi, Chandra Patnagar Rahad... And now, ladies and gentlemen, it is my privilege to introduce to you one of the most amazing personalities of the twentieth century...

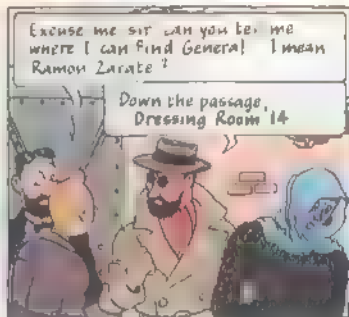
I present: Madame Yamilah!













Caramba! ...Tintin! ...
My old friend! .. Amigo
mío, qué sorpresa! ... Ay!
Dios de mi vida! How I
am happy to see you
again.



And this person here
is what?

You remember, my
friend Captain Had
lock



Los amigos de nuestros
amigos son nuestros
amigos! ... I am happy
Señor Colonel, so
happy!

Delighted!



Descuida no es
la policía

Ah! bueno!



Poor Chiquito! .. You under-
stand .. Ever since police
come to look at our pas-
ports and our papers, he
find police everywhere.

Yes, I quite
see



Por favor, we cele-
brate this happy
meeting You
take with me a
glass of aguar-
diente



Your good health, amigo mío!
Your good health, Señor Colonel!

Here's to you,
General!

Good health!

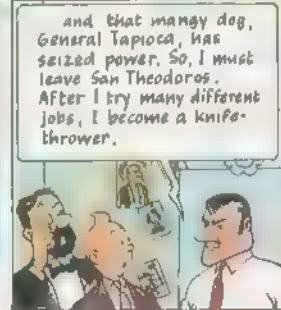


Look out, it's
awfully strong!

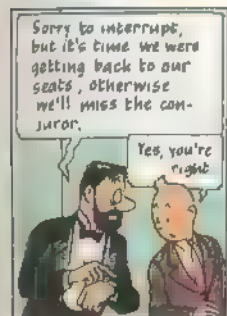
Strong? ...
Pooh! .. I'm
used to it, my
dear fellow...



You are surprised to see me
tonight on the music-hall
stage, no? ... That is life!
... What can we do? There
is another revolution
in my country ..



and that mangy dog,
General Tapioca, has
seized power. So, I must
leave San Theodoros.
After I try many different
jobs, I become a knife-
thrower.



Sorry to interrupt,
but it's time we were
getting back to our
seats, otherwise
we'll miss the con-
juror.

Yes, you're
right

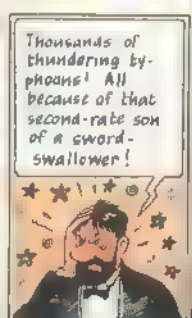
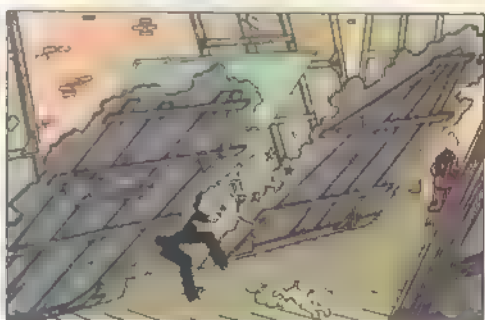


I'm very sorry we have to
leave you so soon. You see,
we rather want to watch the
conjurer do his act... Goodbye,
General

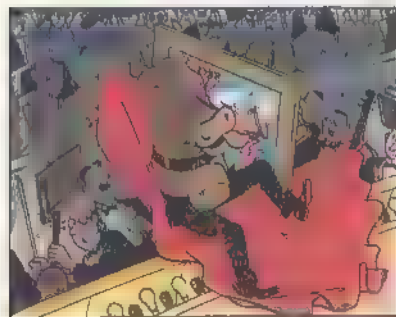
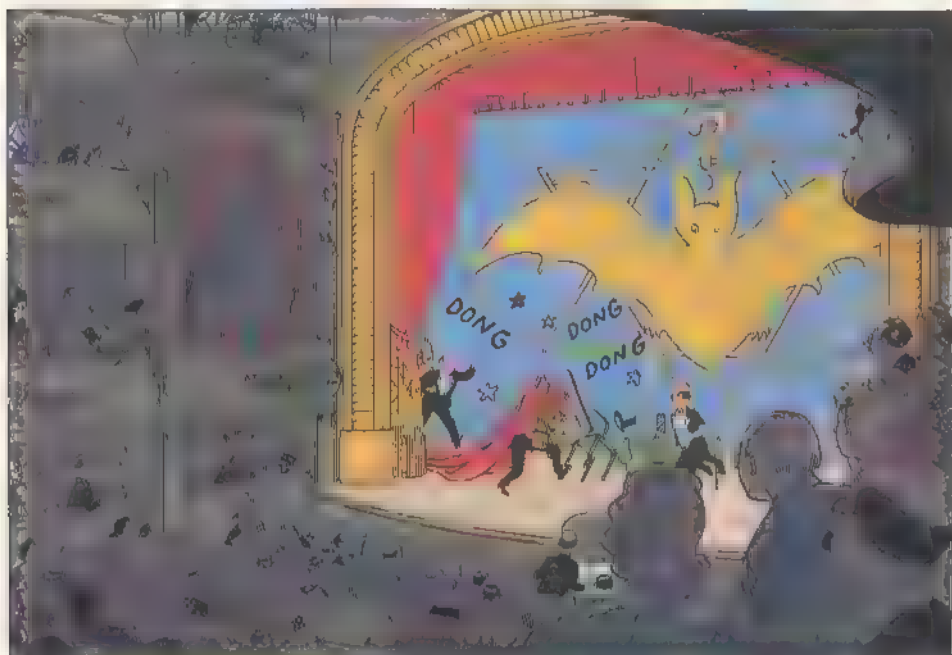
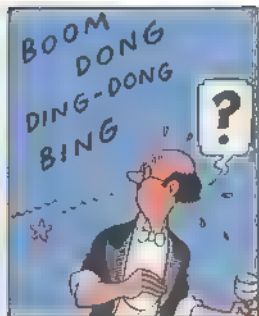
Adios, amigo
mío



Quick, or we shall miss the turn!

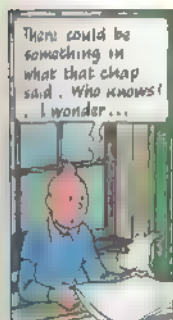
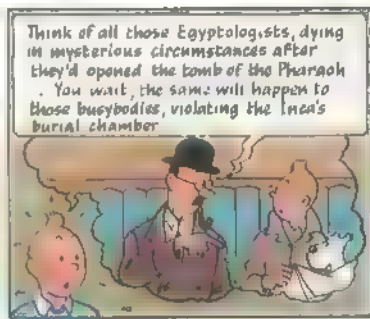
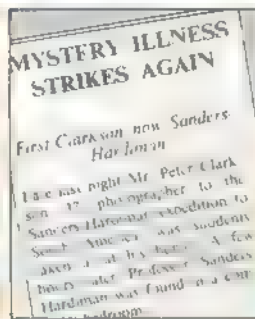








A delightful evening, I must say! ... I'll drop you off on my way home



Strictly speaking, it isn't exactly an illness. The two victims were found asleep, one at his desk the other in his library. According to a preliminary report, the explorers seem to have fallen into some sort of deep coma or hypnotic sleep.

Oh ? How very strange

But have a look here..

?



Well ? ... They're little pieces of glass

Pieces of crystal... they were found close to the two victims

Have you thought of having these crystal fragments analysed ?

Yes, I've left some of them at the laboratory at police headquarters. They're working on them now

There it is : that's all we know so far

Anyway, it's enough for us to rule out the theory of simple coincidence. What we need now is the result of the police analysis. I wonder..

I'll ring up the laboratory. Perhaps they've got the answer already

Good

Hello ? Headquarters ? Put me through to the laboratory, please Hello, Doctor Simons ? This is Thomson.. No without a P, as in Venezuela... Yes .. the analysis Well ?

What ? ?

Professor Readbuck !.. It's fantastic !.. found asleep in his bath... Yes.. They discovered the same crystal fragments .. incredible !... I say, how is the analysis getting on ?... Have you... ?

Nothing definite yet... We've established that the glass particles come from little crystal balls... These probably contained the substance...

.. which sent the unfortunate victims into a sort of coma... The substance ? We have absolutely no idea .. Yes, we're pressing on with our tests... I'll let you know how things are going Goodbye

I can't believe it ! Professor Bath-bub found asleep in the reads !

Number three !

We must warn the other members of the expedition at once! And we must get police protection for them

Why?... You don't think that they... that we... that it...?

Of course! There's no reason why this should stop. Everyone who took part in the expedition is in danger. Let's see... Sanders-Hardiman, Clarkson, Reebuck, that's three... Who were the others? ... Oh, yes! Mark Falconer. Ring up Mark Falconer.

Hello? Hello? Hello? Hello?

It's always the same with the telephone: whenever you use it, it's guaranteed to be out of order!

There's no reply!

I hate to interfere, but if I were you I'd try using that.

Is that Mark Falconer?

Yes Falconer speaking ...

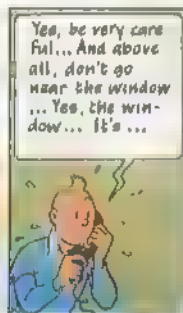
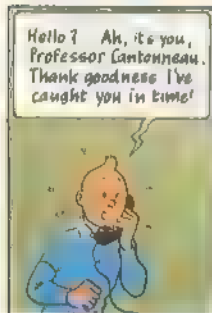
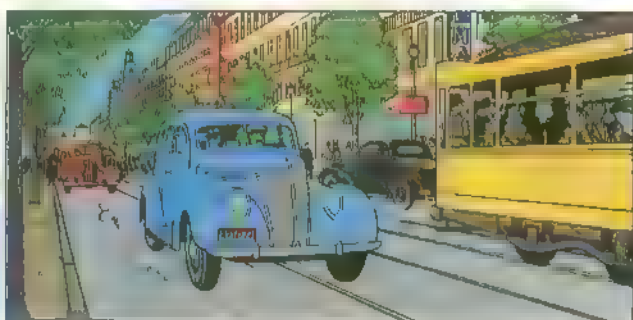
Yes... yes... yes, I was just reading the paper... What? Professor Reebuck too? ... And no... What's that? Crystal fragments! ... By Jupiter, so he was telling the truth!

Who? An old Indian, who got drunk on coca one night. He told me. No, I can't explain over the telephone... No, I'll come along and see you... Where? Good!

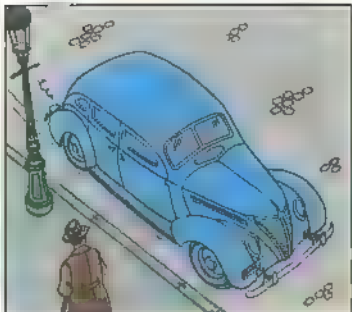
I'll pick up a taxi and be with you right away. Meanwhile, warn Cantonneau, Midge and Tarragon. Tell them to stay indoors. And above all to keep away from the windows.. Yes, windows... Me! Don't worry, I shall be on my guard.. Goodbye for now. I'll be with you soon.

He's coming here. He seemed to know all about it.. He said we should warn the other explorers, telling them not to go out and to keep away from the windows

Good, I'll warn Professor Cantonneau



Something's happened to Professor Cantonneau!.. I'm going straight round there .. You stay here and warn the other two explorers at once.

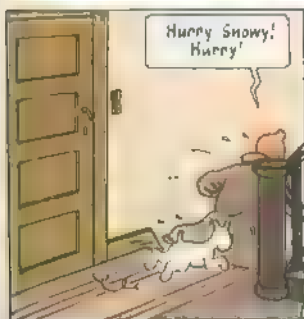


There's a taxi pulling up outside the door.

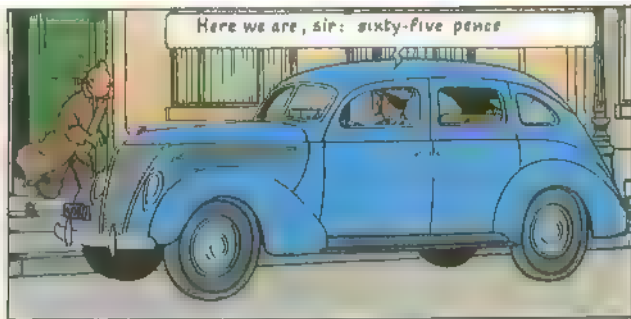
I expect it's brought Mr Falconer... I'll take it on



Hurry Snowy! Hurry!



Here we are, sir: sixty-five pence



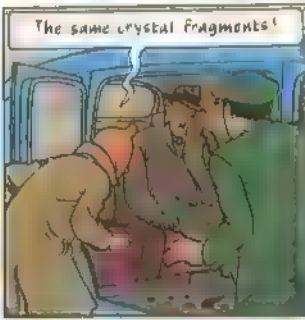
?



!



The same crystal fragments!



Your passenger- he's been attacked! Tell me, did you stop anywhere on the way?

No... oh, yes. Once, at a junction, when the lights were against me



Now I remember! It must have happened then. Another taxi drew up alongside mine, and I heard a faint sound of glass breaking. I didn't think much of it at the time. The lights changed and we moved off



I see. Go into the house and up to the first floor, where you'll find two police officers. Tell them your story. I'm off to warn Doctor Midge.

Righto!







Goodness gracious!
He's asleep too!

?



Over there! Someone's
just disappeared into
the shrubbery!



Hello, Headquarters? This is Thompson.
Yes with a P as in Philadelphia. Yes, I'm
very well, thank you... It's Dr Midge who
isn't. I mean... Yes, sir... They've got him
too.

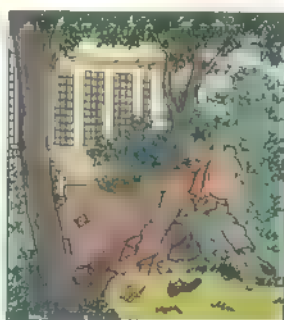


That way Snowy!
Hurry! Hurry!



After him Snowy!
Catch him!

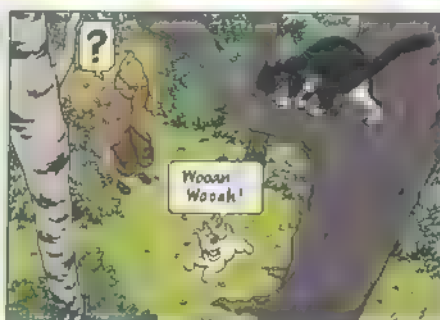
Woah!
Woah!



All right, Snowy!...
Hang on! ... I'm
coming!



Here I come!
Don't let him go!

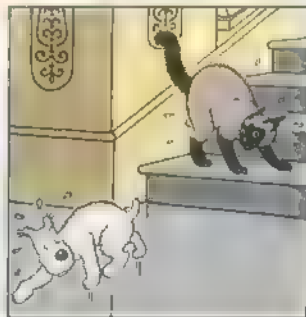
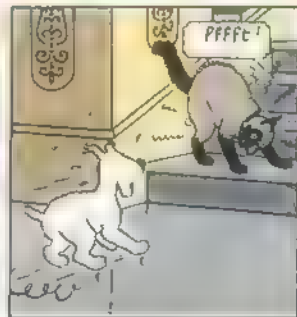
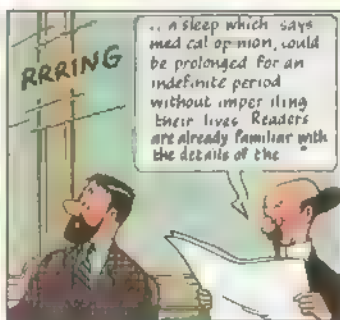
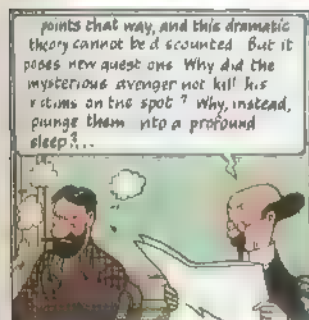
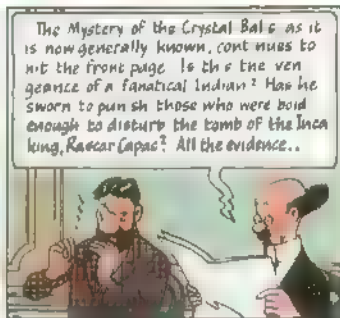
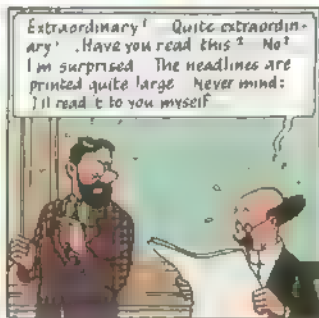
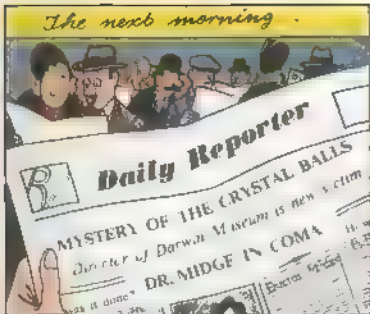


?

Woah
Woah!

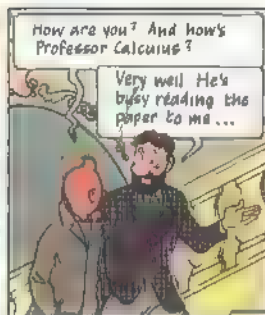


A cat! All that fuss for a
miserable cat! Meanwhile,
of course, our quarry has got
clean away ... Come on
now, get going!





Tintin, my dear fellow!
... How very nice!



How are you? And how's
Professor Calculus?

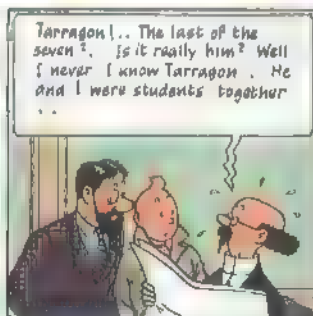
Very well. He's
busy reading the
paper to me...



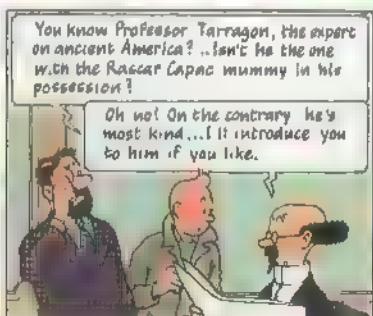
The police are taking full precautions to
ensure the safety of the last of the seven
members of the expedition. This move is
welcome. It is certain.



... that otherwise he would
swiftly share the fate of
his colleagues. Today,
Professor Tarragon.
Oh!



Tarragon!... The last of the
seven? Is it really him? Well,
I never knew Tarragon. He
and I were students together.



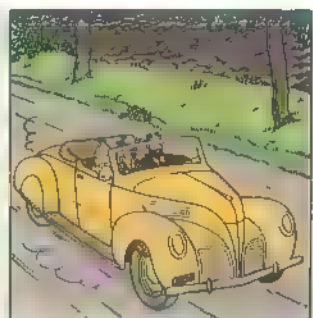
You know Professor Tarragon, the expert
on ancient America? ... Isn't he the one
with the Rascar Capac mummy in his
possession?

Oh no! On the contrary, he's
most kind... I'll introduce you
to him if you like.

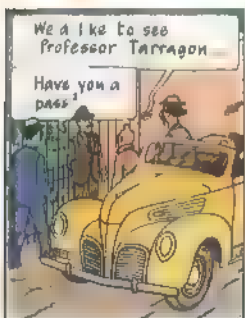


I'd enjoy meeting him.
Thank you.

You'd like to go
now? Certainly...
Come along.

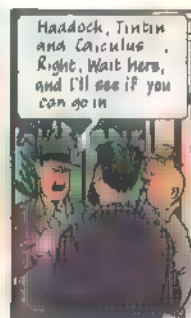


Look, visitors for
Professor Tarragon.



We'd like to see
Professor Tarragon.

Have you a
pass?



Haaddock, Tintin
and Calculus.
Right, wait here,
and I'll see if you
can go in.

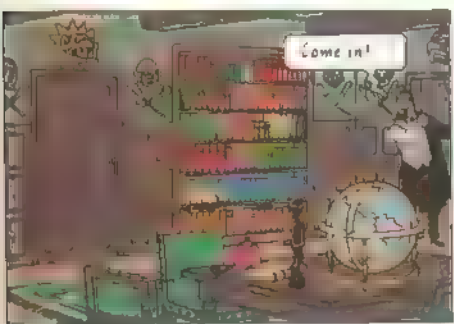
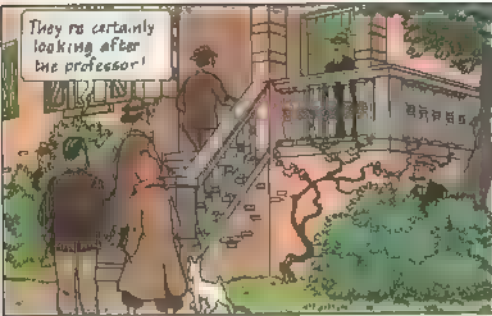


It's like trying to get
into a fortress!

We have our
orders...



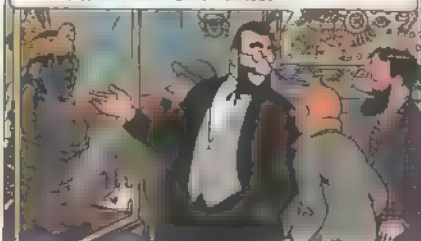
O.K., these gentlemen
can come in.



HA - HA - HA - HA - HA !



Here's the culprit. Our friend Rascar Capac frightened your dog. Rascar Capac he who unleashes the fire of heaven.



BOOM



What about that? We were just talking about Rascar Capac he who unleashes the fire of heaven and I think he's going to bring back



You have an open car, I believe. If I were you I'd put it under cover right away. These summer storms can be very violent ... an absolute downpour.

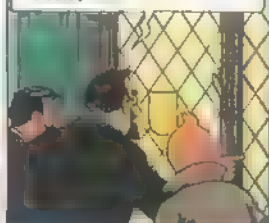


Thanks. May I put it in the garage?

Did you hear that? ... Sounded like a shot outside...



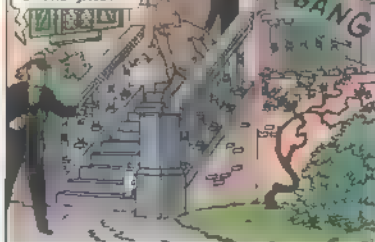
Over there ... a man running. It's one of the detectives guarding the house.



Quick, let's see what's happening...

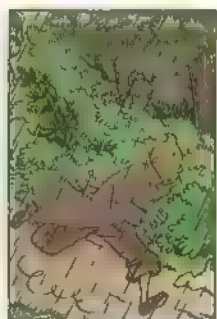
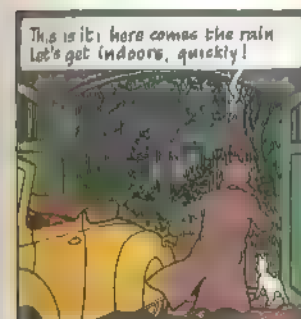
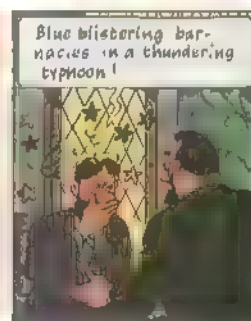
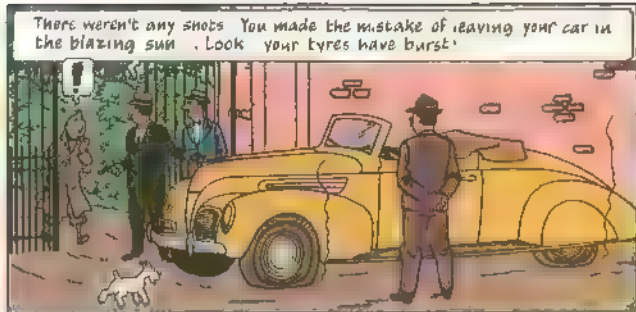


That came from the direction of the gates.



BANG





Everything all right?...Good, good...
At any rate, the false alarm did
prove that the house is well
guarded

Yes, it certainly seems
to be. But still, we
must be very care-
ful.

By the way, Professor, what do you
make of this whole business of the
crystal balls?

What do I make of it?
Not much... But as a matter
of fact, I've drafted a
paper

.. on the occult practices
of ancient Peru. It seems
to have some bearing
but I doubt if it will
solve our problem

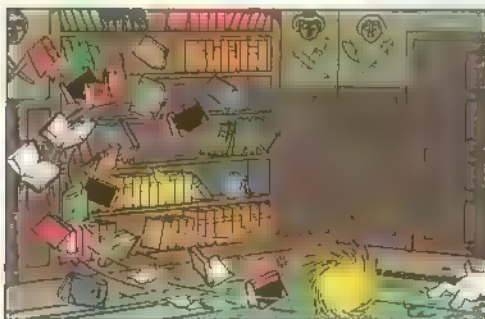
Look at this it's a translation
of part of the inscriptions
carved on the walls of Rascar
Capac's tomb. You may like
to read it

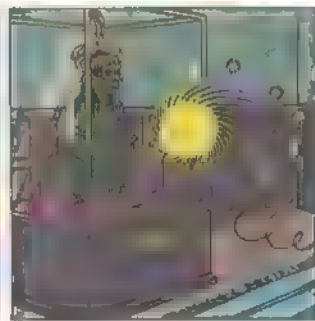
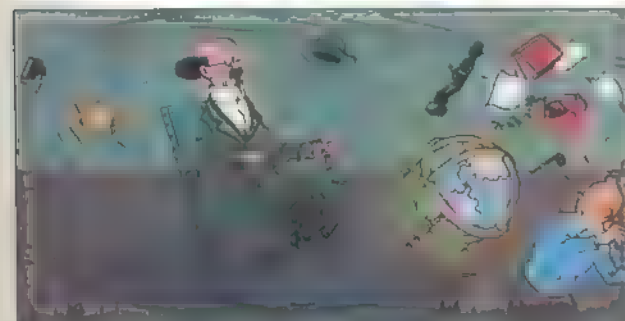
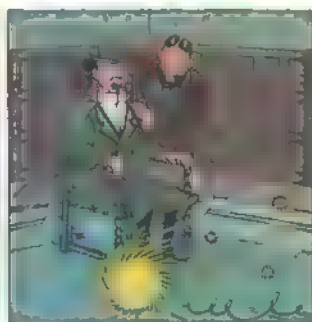
"After many moons will come seven strong-
ers with pale faces, they will profane the
sacred dwellings of he-who-unleashes-
the-fire-of-heaven These vandals will
carry the body of the Inca to their own
far country. But the curse of the gods
will be as their shadow and pursue
them over land and sea..."

But.. but.. this is quite
extraordinary!

Isn't it?.. But
read the next
bit ...

CRACK





Rascar Capac's disappeared! ..
Vaporized! .. Vanished into thin air!
There's nothing left but the cinders!



But Professor Tarragon ..
what's the matter ?



I .. it's nothing ..
Read the rest .. the
rest of my translation

"There will come a day when Rascar
Capac will bring down upon himself the
cleansing fire. In one moment of flame
he will return to his true element, on
that day will punishment descend
upon the desecrators."



Excuse me Hercules

The prophecy is fulfilled... Rascar
Capac has gone .. and I am struck
down by his curse .. I feel it!



Me too! And it smells
very strong sulphur,
isn't it?

Don't give in! The house
is well guarded; you know
that. Where do you
sleep?



In the next room.
There are no
windows.

Good. And there are shutters in
here... What's more, we are upstairs.
To make doubly sure, we'll station two
policemen outside these windows... You
see, there's absolutely no danger.



You're right... I'm being
absurd.. Let me show
you to your rooms, then
I'll bid you good-night.

Some hours later ..





Whew! What a relief... It was only a dream... The gas blew the window open!



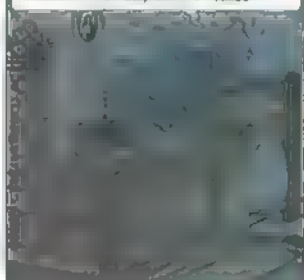
Still, it was a horrible nightmare



HELP!... HELP!



That's the Captain's voice!

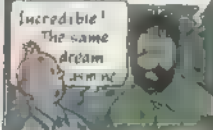


What's happened, Captain? I thought I heard you shouting



Yes! I had a frightful nightmare! RascarCapac came into my room... He had a huge crystal ball in his hand... he hurled it down on the floor...

Incredible! The same dream again



OOH OOH

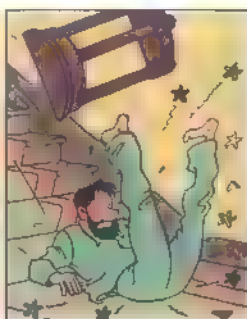
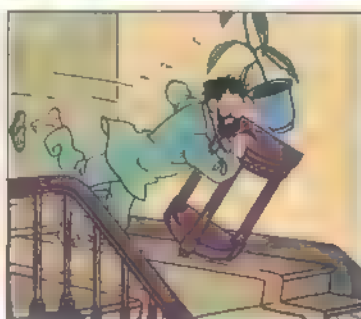
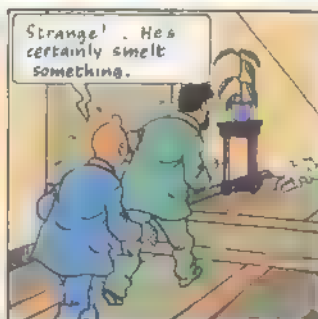
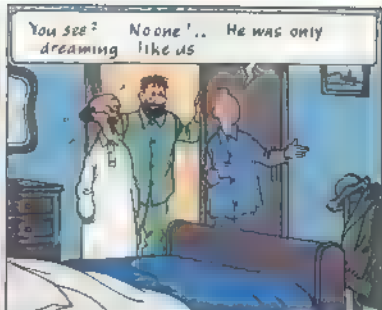
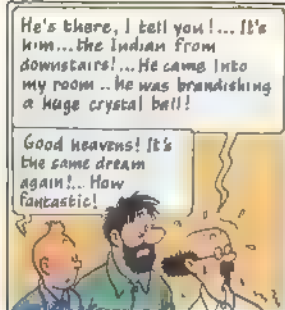


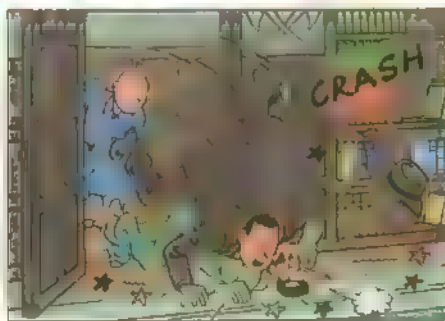
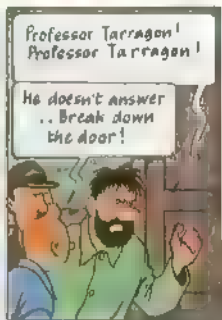
Now what's it?



Look out! He's there! He's after me! He's coming!



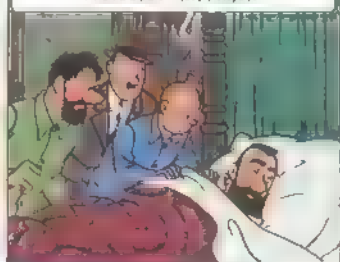




But it's impossible
every single exit is
guarded



Professor Tarragon!
Professor Tarragon!



There's nothing we can do... The
crystal ball has done its work... and
claimed the last of the seven.



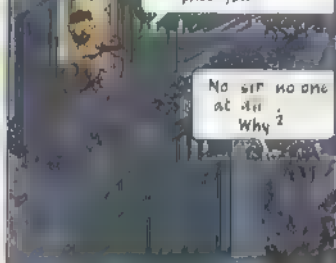
Quick the window... The intruder
must have gone that way



But no... the window and
the shutter are closed tight...
it's incredible!



Has anyone gone
past you?



This absolutely beats
me... How did the
fellow make his
getaway?



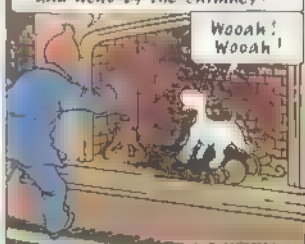
Oh! Look over there!
Rascar Capac's jewels
have disappeared!



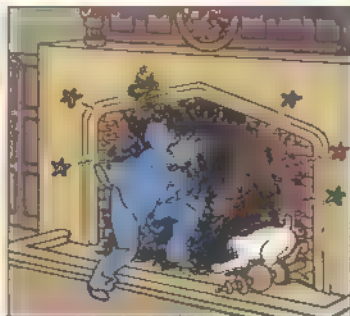
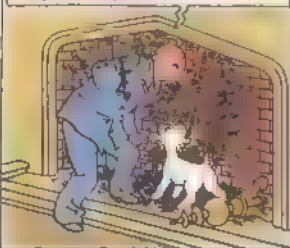
WOOAH!
WOOAH!



There! That's how it was
done... the attacker came
and went by the chimney!



Well... if he went up here there's
still time... he can't have got
clean away





Well, now we know! He did use
the chimney!



The roof! Search
the roof!

Very good, sir

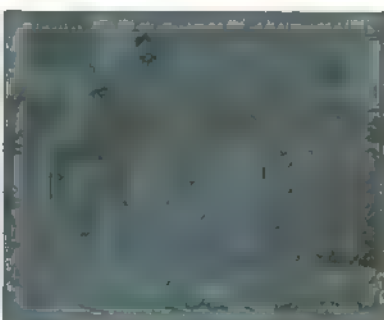


Over there! ..Look!.. There's
a man running away!

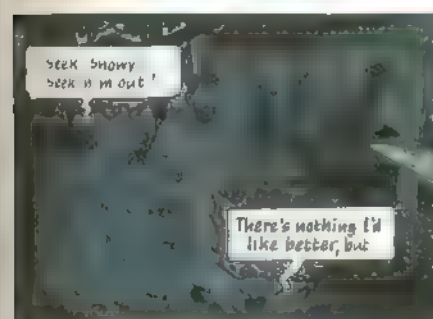


Not him!

He's fallen!
Quick, let's see

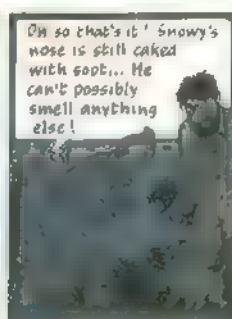


He fell somewhere
about here.

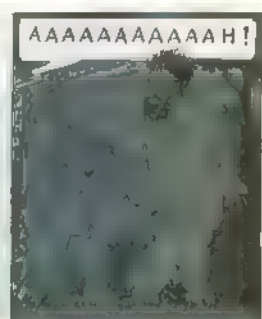


Look Snowy
look in in out!

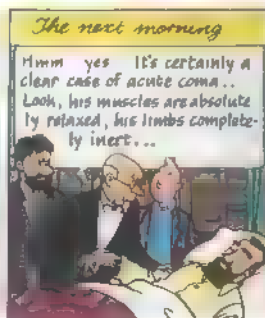
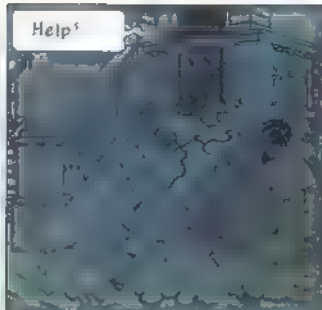
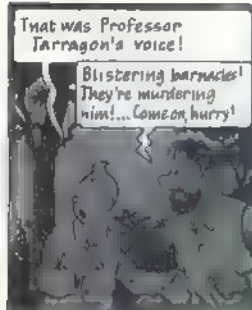
There's nothing I'd
like better, but



Oh so that's it! Snowy's
nose is still caked
with soot... He
can't possibly
smell anything
else!



AAAAAAAAAAAAAH!



'They're coming back! They'll start again - tormenting me! ... Help help!



'They're coming! ... Get away, you tormenters! ... Help me! ... Help!

RAT
TAT
TAT

Who is
it?



Oh, it's you? ... Good morning
Is Hercules there?

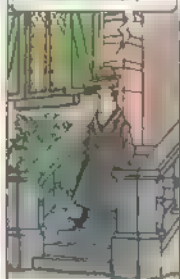
Yes, he's there, in bed,
ill. The doctor is here ...
He sounds in a bad state.



Going round the estate?
Good. I'll join him.



Where is he?



I can't see him.



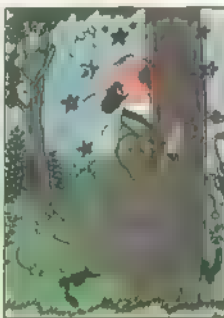
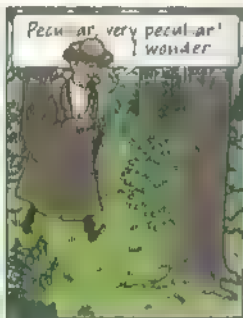
Still, that's easy. I'll
find him with my pen-
dulum.



hello, what's
happening?



Peculiar, very peculiar!
wonder

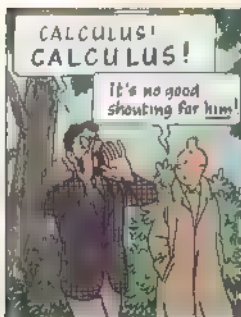
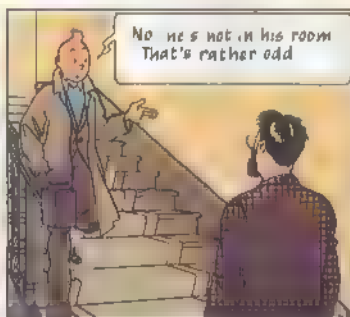
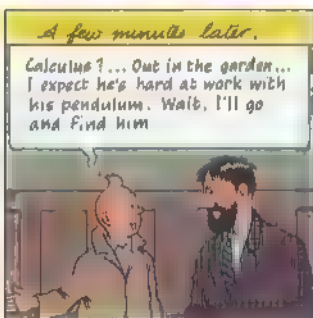


Hat, umbrella,
spectacles, pendulum:
that's the lot on
we go!

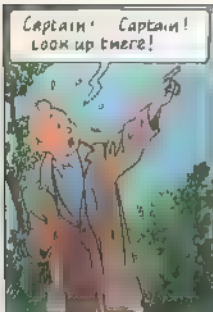


Goodness gracious! How
extraordinary! There
must be something
behind these bushes.

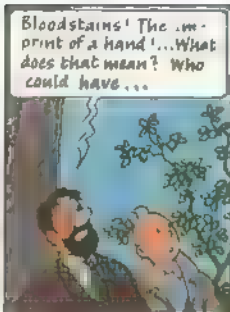




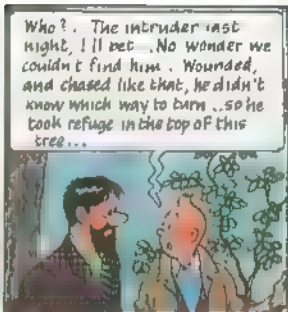
Captain! Captain!
Look up there!



Bloodstains! The im-
print of a hand!...What
does that mean? Who
could have ...



Who? The intruder last
night, I'll bet... No wonder we
couldn't find him. Wounded,
and chased like that, he didn't
know which way to turn... so he
took refuge in the top of this
tree...



But... he could still be
up there...

You're right... I'm going
to see for my-
self...



Do be careful
with you

Good idea.
Thanks.



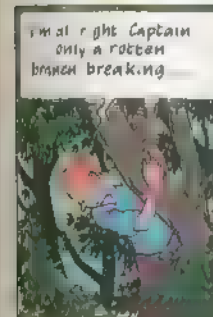
Any luck?



No, I still can't
see anything...



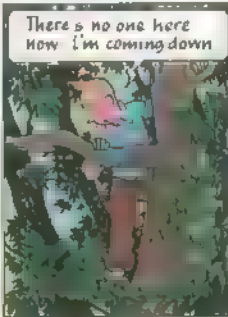
I'm a right Captain
only a rotten
branch breaking...



You're
What all right eh?
about me?

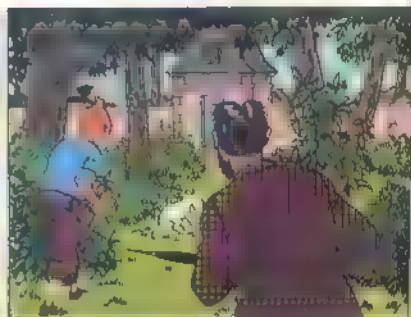
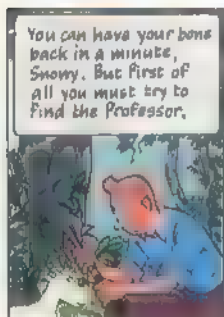
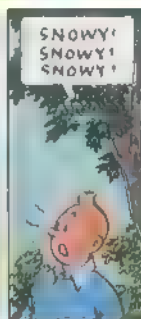
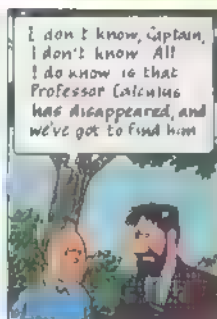
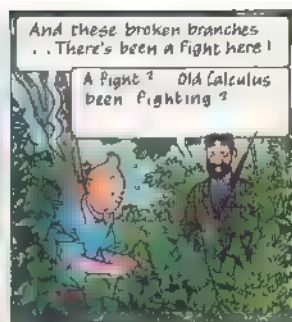
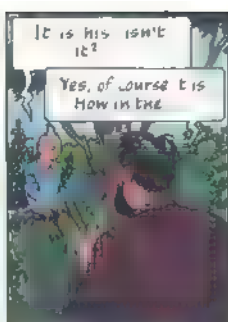


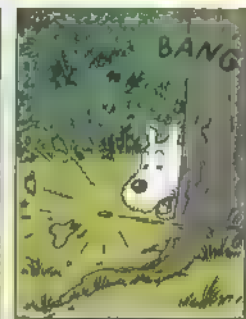
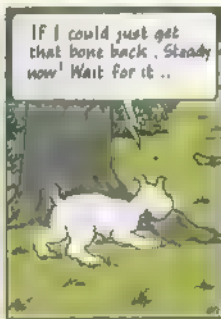
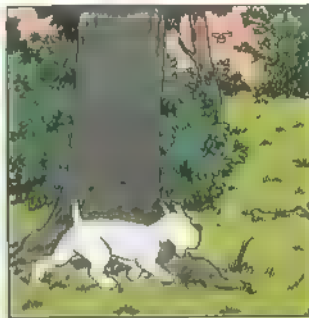
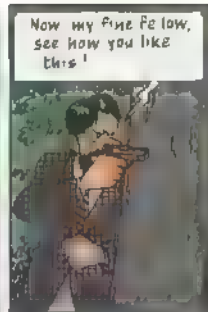
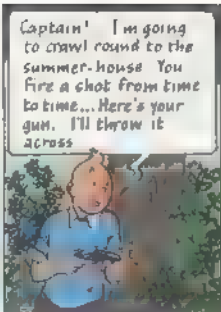
There's no one here
now. I'm coming down

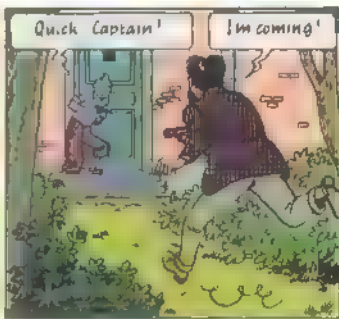


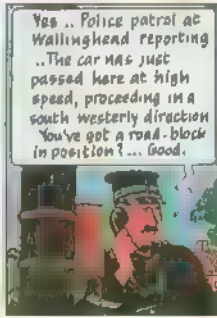
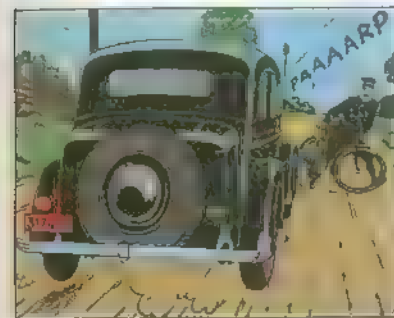
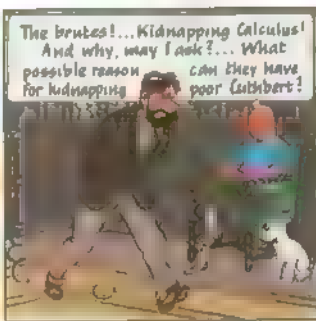
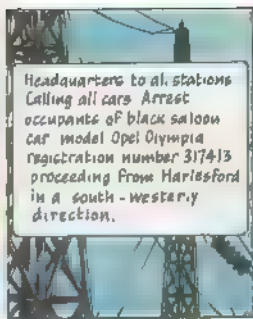
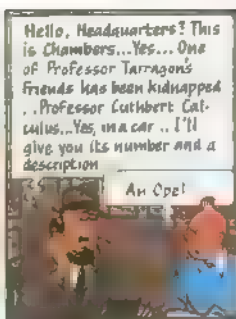
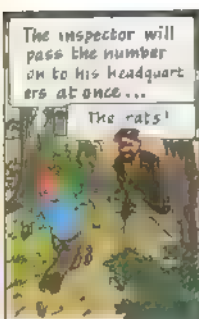
Captain! Over
there, to your right
I'll be! ... More to the
right... more. There,
you've got it!





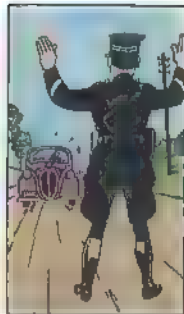








Look there's a car coming



Excuse me, sir but have you seen a black saloon car on the road?

A black saloon? I don't think so. I wasn't paying much attention.



Here comes another



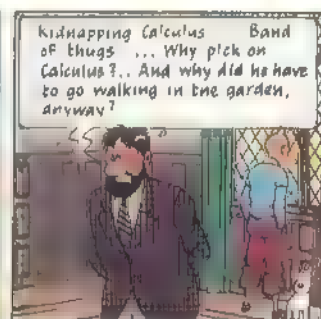
A black Opel saloon?... No... no .. I don't recall seeing one ..

Carry on sir

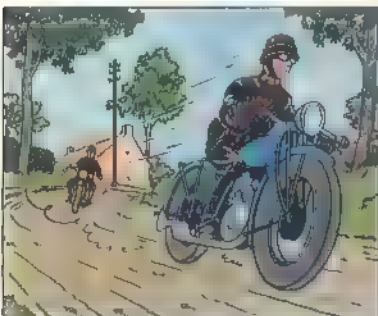


Odd'. Where can they have gone?

We'll soon find out... We'll make a reconnaissance.



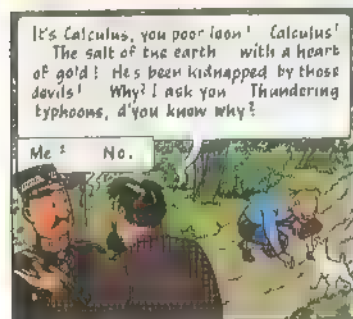
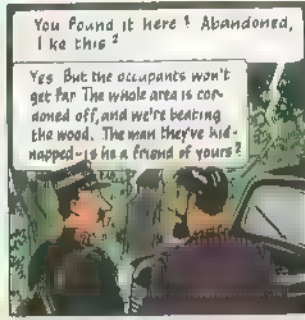
kidnapping Calculus Band of thugs ... Why pick on Calculus?... And why did he have to go walking in the garden, anyway?



Ah Now we know

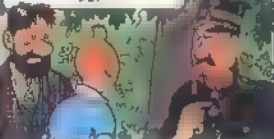


What? You haven't seen them? But it's ages since they went past us!... They almost ran us down!



Good heavens, you're right! A fawn car did pass us... A saloon... I stopped it myself

You didn't think of taking the number?



No, why should I?... But wait a bit. The driver looked like a foreigner, Spanish, or South American, or something like that... Fattish, sun tanned, black moustache and sideboards, horn-rimmed glasses...

And the others?... There were some others, I suppose?



Yes, there was someone sitting beside him... Another foreigner, I'd say: dark hair, bony face, hooked nose, thin lips... I think there were two other men in the back, but I only caught a glimpse of them.



Good!... Well, you can call off the beaters... It's a waste of time. The kidnappers are far away.

Oh, yes? How do you know that?



How do I know? Look at these tracks... Here are the tyre-marks of the Opel. But here are some others, different tyres, Dunlop I'd say: the tyres of the car that was waiting for the Opel



Blethering barnacles, you're right! But how did you guess that it was fawn-coloured?

Look here..



Specks of fawn paint... The lane is narrow. In turning, one of the wings of the car scraped against this tree, leaving traces of paint



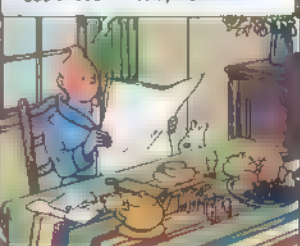
The crooks! So they switched cars!

Come on, we must pass all this on to the police at once. Perhaps they'll be able to catch them further on...



The next morning

Let's see Ah, here..



"The car used by the kidnappers is a large fawn saloon..." Good... "The occupants are believed to be of South American origin..." That's right... "Anyone who can give any information is asked to get in touch with the nearest police station immediately"



Oh well, there's still some hope left...

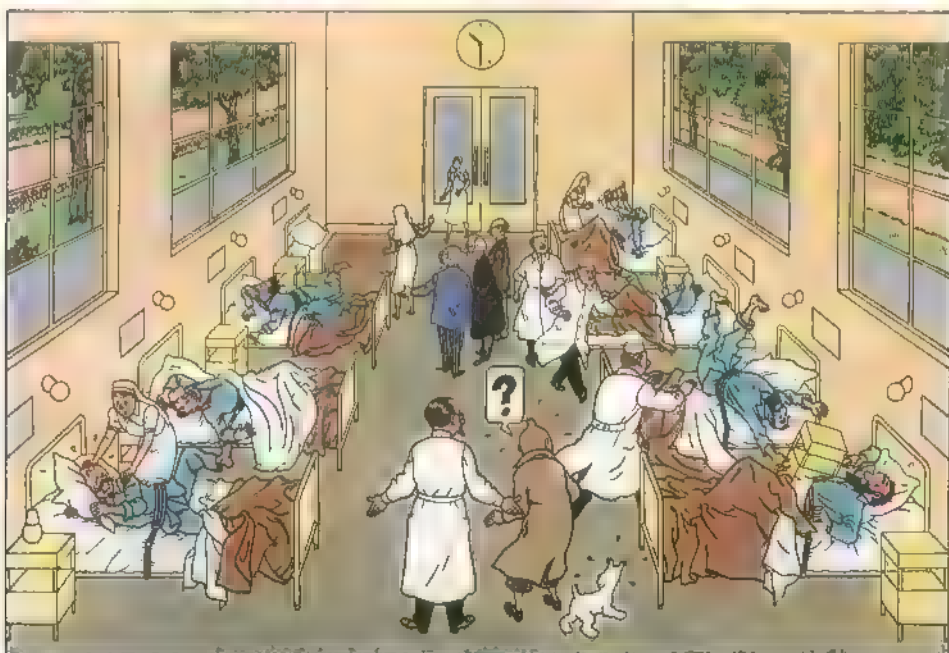


RRRING
RRRING



Hello, this is Thomson. Yes, without a P I say, there's something very queer going on at the hospital where the seven explorers are detained... I think you'd better slip round there



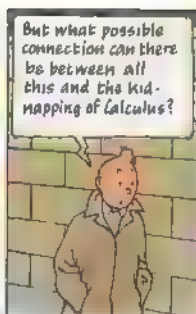




It's certainly very peculiar.



But what possible connection can there be between all this and the kidnapping of Calculus?



The next day...



Good afternoon, Nestor. How is the Captain?

Oh sir, he's aged ten years since this trouble began. And you, sir? Have you any news?



None Nestor. Poor Professor Calculus has vanished into thin air.

Oh dear, oh dear! The master will be so disappointed.



He's here, sir



Hello Captain

Ah, Tintin! Hello... Well, what about Calculus? Anything new?



Nothing at all, I'm afraid

Thundering typhoons



WOOAH
GRRR
FFFH



Snowy! Here, Snowy!



Wooah!
Wooah!

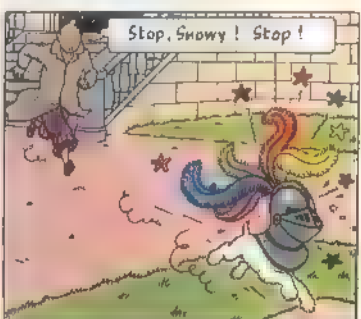
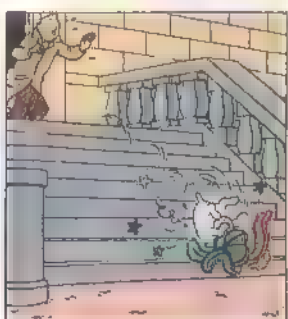
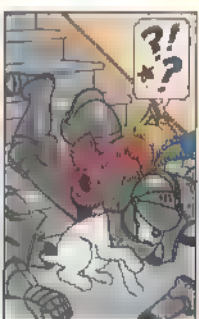
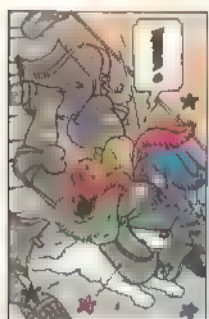
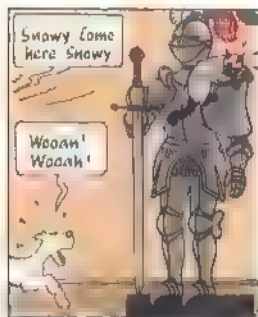
RRRRING

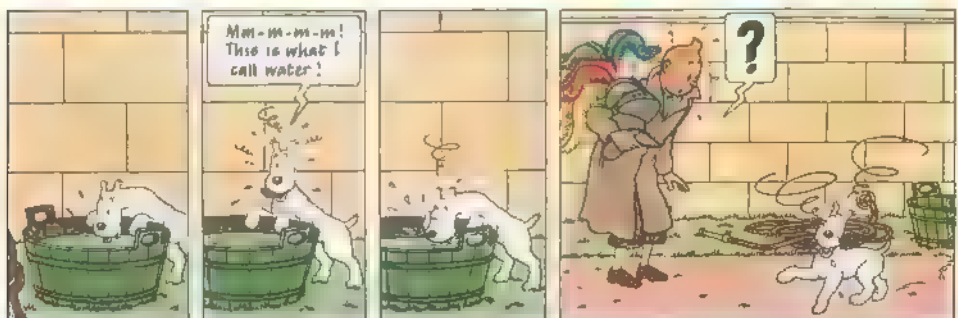


Hello. Yes... It's me... Who's that? Oh? Well, what news? ... What?!









A few minutes later .

And now Captain, will you please tell me where we're going?

To Westermouth



The police rang me. The fawn car was seen near there two days ago by a garage hand. They stopped at a pump for petrol, then left, heading towards the docks. Undoubtedly the kidnappers have boarded a ship with Calulus. And so will we.



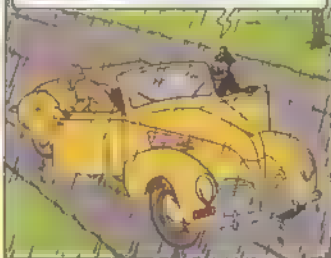
by thunder and snatch him from the grasp of those iconoclasts, those vampires those. And just think! Westermouth, docks, jetties the ocean, the sea breezes whipping the spray in your face..



As for the spray, Captain, you've got your wish!



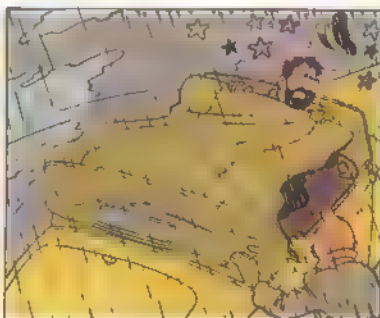
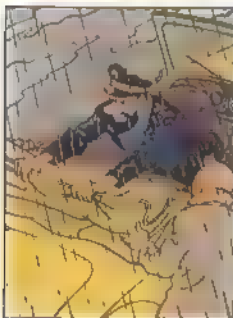
Blistering barnacles! Quick the hood, or we'll be drowned!



What's up?



Thundering typhoons, it's stuck! .. Something's caught up... I'll try to do it from inside the car..



Billions of blistering barnacles!



That's got it!

About time too!





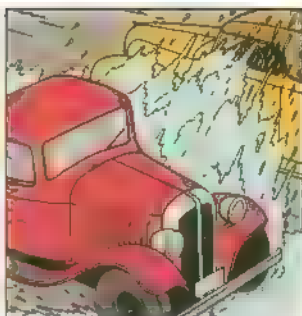
Thundering typhoons!
I'm soaked!



Everything hap-
pens to me!



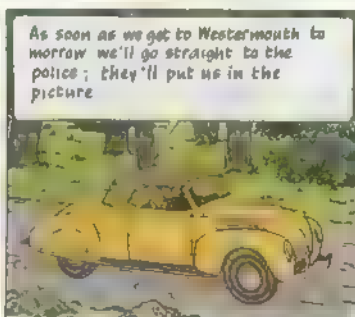
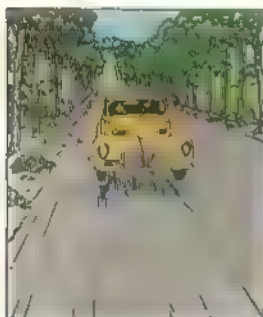
Oh well, at least I'm a bit
drier now



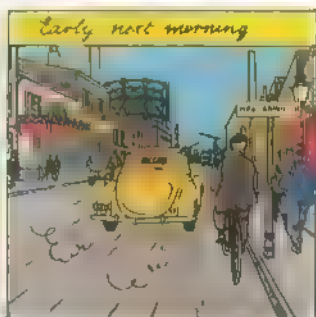
Gangsters! Road hogs! Motorbuses!
Steamrollers! Nyctalops! Parasites!



Sea-gherkins! Pock-marks!
Cannibals!
Come on, Captain, hurry up, or
we'll never get there



As soon as we get to Westermouth to-
morrow we'll go straight to the
police; they'll put us in the
picture



Early next morning



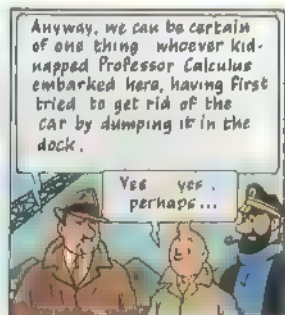
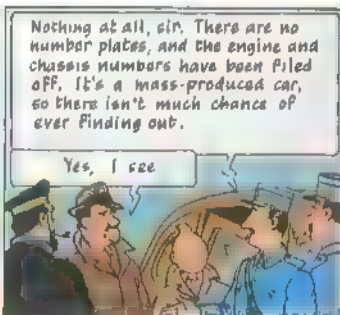
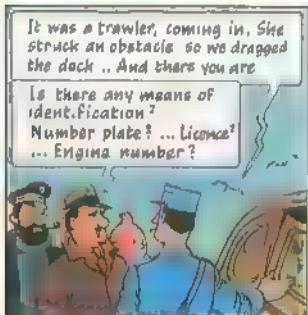
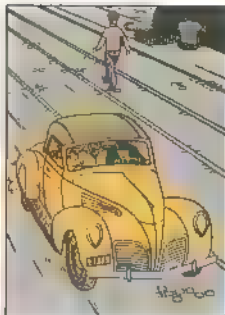
I'm sorry, there's nothing fresh... It was a
fawn car all right, but was it the one containing
your friend? It was seen heading for West-
ermouth and since then nothing... It has
simply vanished.



The search is continuing,
that's all I can tell you
But in my opinion there's
very little chance...
Excuse me



Hello? Yes, this is Inspector
Jackson. Yes. Again? ...
What? Where? In one
of the docks? ...
Well I'm... There's no
mistake about it? ...
Excellent





Hallo,
General !

Ay Dios de
mi vida! ...
Tintin!
amigo mio!



Nice to see you, General.
Are you off on tour ?

On tour ? ... Caramba!
I go home to my
own country. Music-hall,
for me is finished ..
No more
partner.



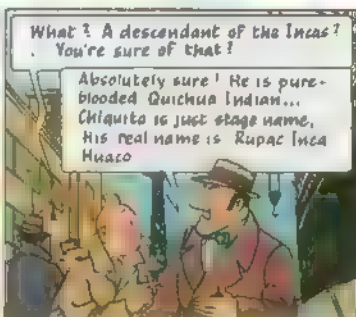
No partner ? ... What's hap-
pened to Chiquito ?

Gone!... Disappeared!... Four
days ago... I not blame him
.. Before we come to Europe
he say he leave me one day;
not to worry, not to look for
him.. And, it is so.



Four days ago ?.. Then he disap-
peared on the twelfth.. well, well
tell me is Chiquito a real Indian!

Is Chiquito a real Indian ?
Santa Madre de Dios !
He is one of last descend-
ants of los Incas!



What ? A descendant of the Incas ?
You're sure of that ?

Absolutely sure ! He is pure-
blooded Quichua Indian...
Chiquito is just stage name,
His real name is Rupac Inca
Huaco



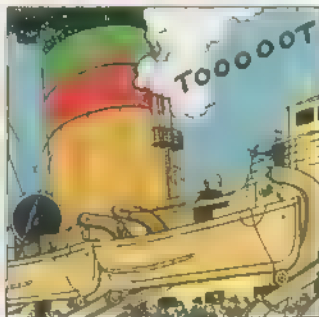
Rupac Inca Huaco ? .. !
wonder.. The thin man
beside the driver, in the
fawn car..

The fawn car ?



Have you ever seen Chiquito
with a rather fat man with a
small black moustache and
horn-rimmed glasses ? ...
Perhaps a Peruvian

Never. He never see any-
body, never speak to any-
body except me.



TOOOOOT



Caramba I must go now Adios
amigo mio We meet again, perhaps!

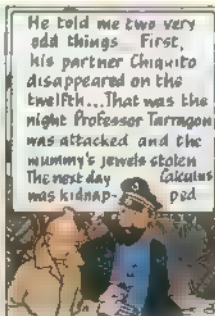
Good luck!

All
aboard!

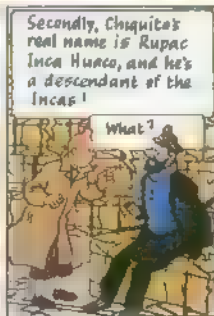


Well, who did you
see over there ?

General
Alcazar

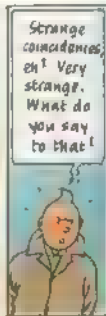


He told me two very
odd things First,
his partner Chiquito
disappeared on the
twelfth... That was the
night Professor Tarragon
was attacked and the
mummy's jewels stolen
The next day
was kidnap-
Calculus ped



Secondly, Chiquito's
real name is Rupac
Inca Huaco, and he's
a descendant of the
Incas!

What ?

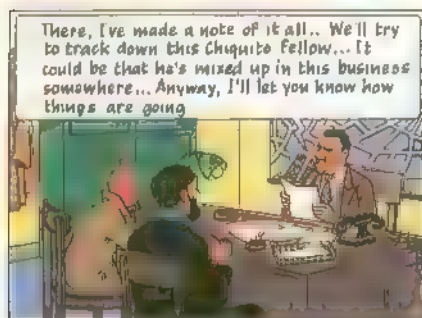
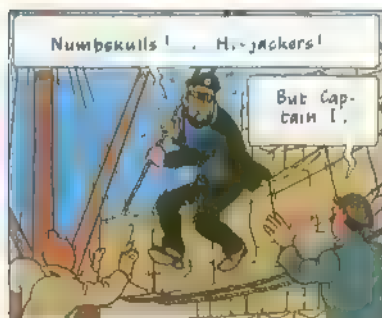


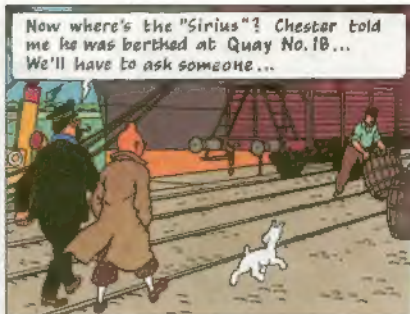
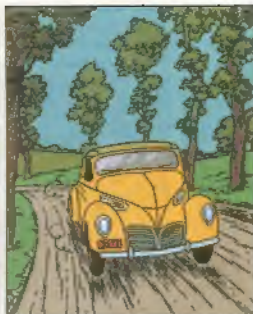
Strange
coincidences,
eh? Very
strange.
What do
you say
to that!



Hey
Whoa! ...
Stop! ...

?







Whew, that was a near thing!



Hello, Snowy. What have you got there?... A hat?



Goodness, it's the same one... The one the Captain kicked.



There... And leave the dirty thing alone!



Here, Snowy! Come here! And put that hat down!



Why can't you do as you're told?



We'll put a stop to your little game...



Now!... At least you won't go in there after it!



Come along, Snowy!... Here!



Woah! Woah!

SPLASH



Oh, so you're trying to make a fool of me, are you?



Donkey! What do you want me to do with the hat? Wear it?



Then I'd look like... Crumbs!... No, it's impossible!



Captain! ... Captain! ... I've got Calculus's hat!



Old Cuthbert's little round hat! ... That's why Snowy insisted on retrieving it! ... Look at the initials!

C.C.: Cuthbert Calculus! ... But then ...



Calculus wasn't taken aboard at Westernmouth. It was here at Bridgeport... But what ship? ... And what was her destination? ... That's what we need to know.

But how can we find out?



I've got it! We must try to find those two lads who played the trick with the hat.

Yes! I'll teach the young pirates a thing or two!



On the contrary, Captain, you'll be very nice to them ... After all, thanks to them we found the hat ... and we want them to tell us how they came by it themselves.

Oh, yes...



Good old Snowy; because of you we've made a wonderful discovery ... Now we want you to help us again ... We must find those two scamps ... you ran after them, remember?



An hour later...



?



Hey, what's bitten you?



Hello there!



Don't worry, we're not looking for trouble. We just want to know where you found this hat?

That hat? ... We were down in No. 17 shed this morning ... where the crates were stacked for loading aboard...



... the "Black Cat" ... When they lifted one of the crates out of the shed, I saw the hat underneath, all flattened out ... Honestly, it wasn't my idea to play that trick ... It was my friend ...



Well, your friend had a jolly good idea ... Didn't he, Captain?

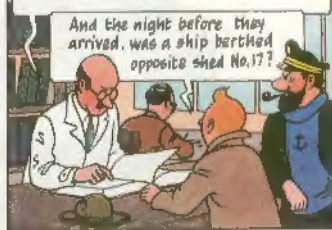


Now, Captain, to the harbour master's office. We'll ask them when the packing-cases came into the warehouse.



The cases? ... They arrived on the fourteenth, by rail ... This morning they were loaded aboard the "Black Cat".

And the night before they arrived, was a ship berthed opposite shed No. 17?



On the thirteenth?... Let's see... Yes, the "Pachacamac" - a Peruvian merchantman. She arrived from Callao on the tenth with a cargo of guano; she sailed again for Callao on the fourteenth with a load of timber.

Fine, I'm most grateful to you.

As I see it, Calculus was kidnapped by Chiguito, a Peruvian Indian; he's aboard the "Pachacamac", a Peruvian ship, bound for a Peruvian port!

But, thundering typhoons, we must go after these gangsters at once! We must rescue him!

Agreed! We'll leave for Peru as soon as we can... Tomorrow, or the day after. Now I'm going to ring up the Inspector and tell him what we've discovered.

Good. And I'll telephone Nestor to tell him we're leaving.

Hello... yes, speaking... What? The Professor's hat?... You... Oh!... Yes... Of course... The "Pachacamac" for Callao... It seems a very strong lead... Yes, I'll make the necessary arrangements... What? You're going to Callao? But that's absurd!... As you like... When are you leaving?... Right... Goodbye, and good luck!

The next day...

Excuse me, but that isn't the plane for South America taking off, is it?

Yes, that's her.

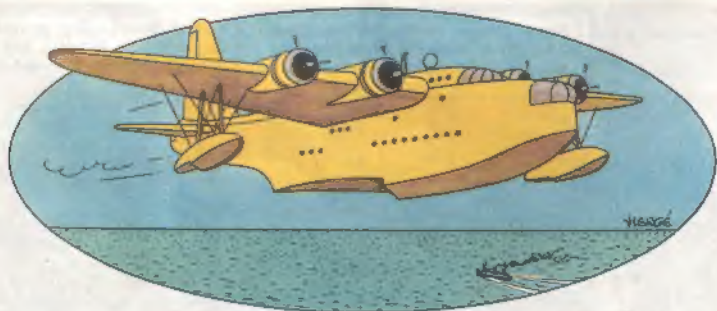
Oh dear! Oh dear! What a calamity! What a terrible calamity... The master! My poor, poor master!

What's up? Anything serious?

It is indeed! The master has left without a single spare monocle!

Now off to Peru!... We shall be in Callao well before the "Pachacamac". We'll get in touch with the police there at once, and as soon as the ship arrives, we'll rescue Calculus.

Yes, that's all very fine, but I wonder if it will be as easy as you think...



What will happen in Peru? You will find out in **PRISONERS OF THE SUN**